

20260505 On the Oath and Penalties of an Enslaved Mason

The Oath of an Enslaved Mason

If you are willing to take it, repeat your name and say after me: ”

[And although many have refused to take any kind of an obligation, and begged for the privilege of retiring, yet none have ever made their escape; they have been either coerced or persuaded to submit. There are thousands who never return to the lodge after they are initiated.]]

The following
‘obligation is then administered:

I, A. B., of my own free will and accord,

in presence of Almighty God and this worshipful lodge of Free and Accepted Masons,
dedicated to God, and held forth to the holy order of St. John,

do hereby and hereon most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear that

I will always hail, ever conceal and never reveal any part or parts, art or arts, point or points of the secret arts and mysteries of ancient Freemasonry which I have received, am about to receive, or may hereafter be instructed in, to any person or persons in the known world, except it be to a true and lawful brother Mason, or within the body of a just and lawfully constituted lodge of such;

and not unto him, nor unto them whom I shall hear so to be, but unto him and them only whom I shall find so to be after strict trial and due examination, or lawful information.

Furthermore, do I promise and swear that I will not write, print, stamp, stain, hew, cut, carve, indent, paint, or engrave it on any thing movable or immovable, under the whole canopy of heaven, whereby or whereon the least letter, figure, character, mark, 'stain, shadow, or resemblance of the same may become legible or' intelligible to myself or any other person in the known world, whereby' the secrets of Masonry may 'be unlawfully obtained through: my unworthiness.

To all of which I do most solemnly' and sincerely promise and swear, without the least equivocation, mental reservation, or self evasion of mind in me:

whatever; binding myself under no less penalty than to have

- my throat cut across,
- my tongue torn out by the roots, and
- my body buried in the rough sands of the sea at low water-mark, where the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours;

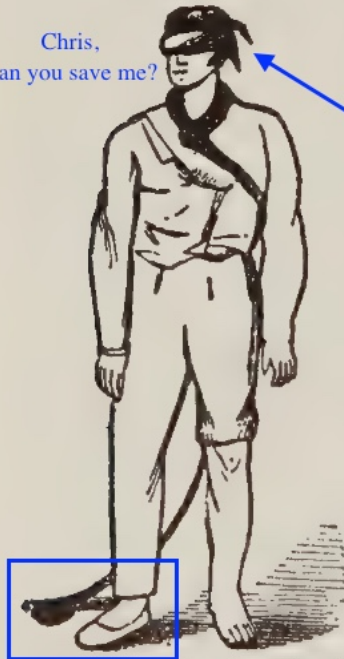
so help me God, and keep me steadfast in the due performance of the same."

(All of this for what?)

Brother, what do you most desire? Light.

(God, help these fools!)

Chris,
Can you save me?



The candidate during the time is divested of all his apparel (shirt excepted) and furnished with a pair of drawers kept in the lodge for the use of candidates. The candidate is then blindfolded, his left foot bare, his right in a slipper, his left breast and arm naked, and a rope called a Cable-tow round his neck and left arm, [the rope is not put round the arm in all lodges] in which posture the candidate is conducted to the door where he is caused to give, or the conductor gives three distinct knocks, which are answered by three from within; the conductor gives one more, which is also answered by one from within. The door is then partly

opened and the Senior Deacon generally asks, 'Who comes there? Who comes there? Who comes there?' (A Not-See)

The conductor, alias the Junior Deacon answers, "A poor blind candidate who has long been desirous of having and receiving a part of the rights and benefits of this worshipful lodge, dedicated (some say erected) to God, and held forth to the holy order of St. John, as all true fellows and brothers have done who have gone this way before him." (of St. JOHN)

in a horizontal position.] "Brother, I now present you my right hand in token of brotherly love and esteem, and with it the grip and name of the grip of an Entered Apprentice



Mason." The rights hands are joined together as in shaking hands and each sticks his thumb nail into the third joint or upper end of the forefinger; the name

of the grip is Boaz, and is to be given in the following manner and no other; the Master first gives the grip and word, and divides it for the instruction of the candidate; the questions are as follows: The Master and candidate holding each other by the grip, as before described, the Master says, "What is this?"

Ans. "A grip."

"A grip of what?"

Ans. "The grip of an Entered Apprentice Mason."

Do you know how many times

I have received this dainty little girl's handshake?!

'How do you do, madam?'

